

## The Convention Bill.

The bill calling a Constitutional Convention of the people of the State passed the 15th inst., and is now a law. The bill limits the number of Delegates to seventy-five. The election will take place on the third Saturday in December.

As it is now a settled fact that we are to have a Convention, let the Conservatives of each county go to work and organize, and nominate such men for Delegates as will meet the approbation of the people, and who possess experience in State affairs, and who will reflect credit thereon.

The Conservatives of this county will hold an election at their respective places of voting on Saturday next, for the purpose of selecting two suitable Delegates, from each district, to the County Convention, which will meet at Madisonville, on Monday the 22d inst., to nominate candidates for the Constitutional Convention, which is to meet at Nashville the 10th of January, 1870.

We hope there will be a good turnout in each district, and that good men will be sent up to the County Convention, men who will know for what purpose they are sent, and who will cast their votes with discretion, as to the man who should represent the county in the State Convention. We warn the Conservatives of the county to be careful in making the nomination, let him, by all means, be a good and true man. Don't go to Madisonville and disagree as to who he should be, but work harmoniously together, and then, if the nominee be a good man, let all center their whole strength upon him. We do not, honestly, believe that he will meet with any opposition from the other party. We have the power now, and let us exercise it so as not to debar any white citizen of his rights—but use it to the good of both parties; by doing this we will gain many votes, and large additions will be made to the conservative ranks, thereby securing success to our party for all time to come. Let us not heed the doctrines emanating from old broken down politicians; we have had enough of them, they should be dropped from the roll, and sound, sensible young men placed at the head of the column. Old issues are now dead, we want men suitable to the times.

[Communicated.]

## Preservation of Public Records.

Editor of the Enterprise:

I would, as a citizen deeply interested in the prosperity of our good old county, make a suggestion to our worshipful County Court, which has done much, under the circumstances, for the last three years. It has provided a good and commodious Court House and Jail, with many appliances for the comfort of the officers, and the dispatch of business. There are few counties in the State possessing a more convenient Court House, or a more efficient and accommodating set of officers; still, there is one "enterprise" our worshipful Court should enter upon, and that is, to provide a fire proof vault, or large safe—or a fire proof Clerk's office, for the County Court Clerk, and the County Register. A separate building on one corner of the square would, perhaps, be most desirable, with alcoves for circuit and chancery records. Built of brick, one story, with arched roof, and covered with slate—with a slate floor, in square of diamond blocks—iron window frames, doors, and shutters. Our citizens could hardly estimate the loss of the books and papers in our Clerk's office, including all records of estates, as well as the Register's books, with all the titles to the lands of every citizen, involving, if burned, endless litigation. It, apparently, is not right for the county, who are the conservators of the public good, to permit such a contingency of loss to exist. The expense would be small, comparatively, and as I understand our county will be, in a measure, free from debt, for the first time in many years—the present is a good time to provide against the calamity of fire.

It is true, there are many matters pressing upon the consideration of our worshipful Court, such as bridges over our creeks and runs, and work upon our leading roads to market; as well as improvements to our Poor House, and looking to the comfort of our poor—who we have always with us. Still, the Legislature should change the law in reference to the application of labor on the common roads, and relieve the Court from a very embarrassing portion of its duties, and one of vital importance to property holders.

I make these suggestions to the Court in all humility, and with a full knowledge of all the surroundings to our people, and feel that the saying is true, "that an ounce of preventative is better than a pound of cure."

MONROE.

## A Suggestion.

We, the undersigned, voters of Monroe county, Tennessee; feeling that we have a right to a voice in the selection of candidates to represent the county in the councils of the State; and

WHEREAS, there is to be an election on the second Saturday of December next, for delegates to a Convention to assemble at Nashville, on the first Monday in January, 1870, for the purpose of revising the Constitution of the State, and, believing as we do, that it is of vital importance to the country that we select men who are immediately identified with the industrial pursuits of the country, and whose course throughout has been characterized by a conservative and liberal policy, and fully recognizing in the characters of J. A. Coffin and John R. Gaines, the requisite qualifications, we hereby recommend for nomination J. A. Coffin, as a suitable candidate to represent the Senatorial district, comprising the counties of Monroe, McMinn, Polk and Meigs, and J. R. Gaines to represent the county of Monroe, in said Convention.

E. C. Harris, Jno. Grubb, J. F. Key, E. K. Johnston, Wm. Beckwith, G. W. Vincent, H. F. Lowry, C. Pearce, Jerry McGuire, J. H. Thompson, Jas. C. Hall, Moses Newcomb, J. R. Henry, Nathan Davis, Joseph Sands, A. M. Pence, Joseph Upton,

W. W. McReynolds, Wm. Davis, J. P. T. McCroskey, Joseph C. Hart, H. M. McCloskey, C. J. Hudson, R. W. Hudson, Wm. Fowler, J. M. Magill, J. H. Worth, J. B. Jackson, Guilford Cannon, W. H. Simples, J. H. Price, J. K. Rowan, S. P. Hale, John Johnston,

## Our Responsibility.

"The Clarksville Tobacco Leaf says: "We cannot be too powerfully impressed by the importance of the constitutional convention soon to be called, to represent the people of Tennessee and to carry out their views in altering and reforming the organic law of the State. We cannot too often remember, nor too powerfully feel, that upon us is devolved the whole responsibility of this great work, so pregnant with good, if it be well done; so fraught with future woes if it be performed without a proper spirit of conciliation and moderation. With us the ballot box is often a substitute for revolution—a remedy for evils which, in other countries, would require the keen blade of a bloody civil strife for their correction."

The election of a convention to change the organic law of the State is always a kind of revolution. The people, the fountain of power, who alone have the right of revolution, demand to have returned to their own hands the insignia of power. Their will and their pleasure is the only limit to their authority, within the restrictions imposed by the constitution of the United States. It is too often the case in revolution, that those who enter the struggle for a triumph of principles, lose sight of their object, and continue the contest under the hatred and the prejudice engendered in the heat of the strife, long after their principles have been established. In bloodless revolution at the ballot box, as well as in the sanguinary strife of civil dissensions, it often happens that proscriptive and oppression follow success. In the first flush of triumph, when zeal is no longer restrained by opposition, when moderation, and calm determined effort, have given way to fierce exultation and shouts of victory, and the weak and defeated are at the mercy of the strong and triumphant, there is great danger that all bounds of reason and moderation will be swept away, and all barriers of prudence and justice hurled down, and the struggle for principles changed into a made crusade for punishment and revenge.

There is great danger then, that the calm and the moderate, leaders in the strife, will be thrown aside, and the shallow and the reckless, who alone can outstrip the multitude in the fierceness of their wrath, invested with the leadership. Men of calm judgment and moderation too often then endeavor in vain to stem and turn back the tide.

We have just passed through an election in Tennessee, which has relieved us of a crushing oppression, a grinding despotism, which exceeded in its tyrannical measures, and its impudent assumption of power anything that we had ever before conceived, or dreamed possible.

Acts of oppression, and scenes of tyranny such as we have not yet forgotten, and we fear, such as it transcends human power to forgive, stupefied and crushed us during that period. Now it is proposed to call a convention for the purpose of undoing the work of our oppression. It must appear to every one that this is a work requiring great care and patient reflection, moderation and clearness of judgment.

We should remember that passion and

anger accomplish nothing, while they endanger the peace of society, and cripple the energies of every peaceful citizen. In the exercise of their sovereign power to alter and reform the government the people can only discharge their duty to themselves and to their children by selecting men of coolness and ability, of moderation and liberal views—men who will not be in any way influenced by passion, or prejudice: It is important that the alterations to be made by the convention shall be only such as are absolutely necessary, to a proper working of the government.

There are those who in their blindness would erase the whole record of the past four years; such men are the croakers, who dampened the ardor of those who were struggling, by their gloomy forebodings, who never lifted a finger to aid in our redemption. Now they would have us believe, from the fiery quality of their zeal, that they effected our deliverance.

It becomes us to avoid this glass of poison in making our selections. It becomes us to avoid selecting the race of politicians. This is a work as far above their ability as it is above their average honesty. We want no time servers, who can be swayed by their views of what will be most consistent with their record. We want men who are willing to forget all of the past, and look only to the good of the future. Perhaps there is no ground of justice on which those who kept us in bondage can ask that the past be forgotten; but, as men, considering alone the future peace and prosperity of our State, and its freedom from strife and crime,—not as children clamoring for relation, we can, and ought on mere selfish grounds of policy to forget the past.

Let us choose then men who do not seek to serve us, men who wait to be called from their business, and urged to perform this service, men who will come to the work fully alive to its importance, and with full ability for any emergency. Men who can if necessary with-stand any pressures which may be brought to bear by the reckless and the unscrupulous, who may seek in agitation, their own aggrandizement or their own notoriety, or the gratification of their own narrow minded illiberal prejudices."

## NEW YORK.

New York, Nov. 13.—Relative to the stupendous drawback frauds in the customhouse here, the Sun calls for the removal of Trimnell, he being perfectly honest, but incompetent to fill his position. It says the frauds of Blatfield were brought to Grinnell's notice three weeks ago, but he refused to listen to the charges. Subsequently he gave Blatfield a lease of absence, when he went to Canada, and has since left for Europe.

The examination of the case of R. R. Mulligan, charged with complicity in the drawback frauds, commenced to-day before Commissioner Osborne. The principal witness was Wm. J. Korn, who testified to Mulligan's knowledge of any concern in the matter in which Korn was at the time an interested party, having received his share, about \$4,500. The case was adjourned to Friday next.

Travis A. Howard, the person who is stated to have discovered the frauds in Washington and to have subsequently helped the matter along and participated in the proceedings, is now under indictment for alleged participation in the frauds then brought before the Commissioner, and gave bail in \$10,000 for examination on Monday.

The Herald says the National banks are aiming at the control of the money in the country. It holds that the National bank currency ought to be withdrawn and greenbacks issued in its place. The West and South, as well as the East and North, might have then as many banks as they choose; that is, banks of deposit and loans, and for commercial accommodation, which is the only legitimate business of banking, all using at the same time the currency of the Government and the people.

The Government would then get the benefit of a net circulation, the profits of which are enormous; the people would have a uniform currency, perfectly safe and steady. If the currency is to be disturbed or changed at all, this is the only rational view in accordance with sound financial doctrine and public interests.

The Postmaster General will soon issue an order prohibiting the carriage through the mails of the circulars gotten up by swindling firms for the purpose of defrauding the public. Some twenty of these firms are on the black list of government detectives.

The Woman's Council, which looks to the moral reformation of society and the elevation and education of woman, had a meeting to-day, and proposed to establish branches in all the large cities, and that delegates be sent to a general parliament to meet here at a future time. No action was taken.

Several banks in New York and Brooklyn are said to have suffered losses by the operations of Howe, the arrested forger.

A lawyer once asked a Dutchman, concerning a pig, in court: "What ear-marks had he?" "Vell, ven I first became acquainted mit de locky, he had no ear-marks except a very short tail."

The hog may not be thoroughly posted in arithmetic, but when you come to a "square root," he is there.

## Tennessee Legislature.

## Senate.

Nashville, November 10.

The Senate met at 10 a. m.; Speaker Thomas in the chair.

Millsaps introduced a bill for the relief of B. Lee, former Revenue Collector of Fentress county.

The House joint resolution of respect to memory of the late George Peabody was concurred in.

A communication from the Comptroller that he could not report to the General Assembly the amount of school tax paid into the Treasury for school purposes, for 1868, because said amount has not yet been collected and set apart for the purpose named.

The House bill incorporating Chattanooga, passed third reading, with amendments, changing the boundaries, and fixing the election for November instead of December.

## House.

The House met at 10 o'clock a. m., Speaker Perkins presiding.

James, of Hamilton, presented a memorial from the citizens of Tennessee to Congress, praying for restitution for losses sustained by the Tennessee railroads during the war, on account of the Government.

Curt introduced a bill for the benefit of the Cincinnati, Cumberland Gap and Charleston Railroad.

Scott introduced a joint resolution asking Congress to compensate the surviving soldiers of the war of 1812, by giving each six hundred acres of public lands or a pension as an equivalent.

The House refused to concur in the Senate amendment to the House Convention Bill, limiting delegates to fifty, by a vote of 32 to 38.

It is quite probable that a compromise will, to-morrow, be adopted between the two houses, by fixing the number of delegates at seventy-five.

The Senate bill to make the rules of evidence in the State and Federal Courts, uniform passed third reading.

The Senate amendments to the House bill incorporating the city of Chattanooga, was concurred in.

The Senate bill to restore Judge Frazier to all the privileges and rights enjoyed before his impeachment, passed second reading, and was made the special order for to-morrow, when it will pass third reading.

Sloss was re-elected, today, President of the Nashville and Decatur Railroad.

Over twenty thousand dollars of executions were issued to-day, against the corporation of Nashville, on city checks. The amount hereof are said to be one hundred thousand dollars.

The city has employed W. F. Cooper, for a fee of \$15,000, to save judgments as long as possible.

## Senate.

Nashville, November 12.

The Senate met at 10 a. m., Speaker Thomas in the chair, and 23 members present.

Cooper, of Bedford, presented a joint report from the Judiciary Committees of both Houses to the effect that, although the award to Messrs. Ward & Briggs, lessees of the State Penitentiary was made in accordance with an act of the last Legislature, it is nevertheless subject to be fully investigated in the courts.

Luttrell introduced a bill to aid the completion of the Knoxville and Kentucky Railroad, by leasing the road or pledging its earnings.

Peyton introduced a bill to erect a monument to John Bell.

The Senate took no action on the demand of the House for a new committee of conference on the Convention Bill.

It is generally believed that a compromise will be effected by making the number of delegates seventy-five.

The House bill, to repeal the Kuklux act, passed third reading and is now a law.

The Senate bill, to fix the rate of interest at six per cent, unless on special contracts, passed third reading.

## House.

The House met at ten a. m., sixty-six members present; Speaker Perkins in the chair.

James, of Hamilton, introduced a bill to authorize the construction of the Cincinnati Southern Railroad through Tennessee.

This bill was introduced at the request of certain parties interested in the enterprise, who are now here from Cincinnati and Chattanooga.

The road will be under contract at an early day.

The following Senate bills passed first reading:

To repeal the loyal indemnity act.

To revise the old charter of Knoxville.

Thomas, from the Committee of Conference on the Constitutional Convention Bill, reported that the committees could not agree.

A lively parliamentary struggle took place, resulting in the refusal of the House to recede, by a vote of 31 to 35.

A new committee was ordered.

The enemies of ex-President Johnson charge that he is at the bottom of the disagreement of the two Houses, for the reason that, under the Senate amendment he would have to be a candidate from the Senatorial District, instead of, simply, from Greene county, and therefore he would, under the Senate amendment, run a risk of being defeated.

The House bill compelling voters to vote in their own districts, passed third reading.

The Senate is stubborn and the House is determined. Meanwhile the people are growing more impatient. Let a compromise be made on the basis of a delegate from each county and all will be well.

## Senate.

MONDAY, NOV. 15.—The Senate met at 10 a. m., Speaker Thomas in the chair, and a quorum present.

## CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION.

Mr. Etheridge moved that another committee of conference be appointed. Carried.

Mr. Clementson offered the following resolution:

Resolved, That the committee on conference which may be appointed by the Speaker on the disagreeing votes of the two houses on House bill No. 165, be hereby requested to agree to seventy-five delegates as a compromise of the number who shall compose the Convention contemplated in said bill, one person from each Representative and one from each Senatorial district under the apportionments of 1852; and further, that they make such other changes in the bill as may give the Governor time to give thirty days' notice of the time of holding the election and for a corresponding extension of time in the meeting of the Convention.

The vote was taken on the adoption of the resolution and resulted as follows: Ayes—12, Noes—7.

The Speaker then appointed as said committee Messrs. Clementson, Etheridge and Cabbins.

## REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE.

Subsequently Mr. Etheridge presented the following report of the Committee of Conference:

Mr. Speaker: The Committee of Conference on the disagreeing votes of the Senate and House of Representatives on House bill No. 165 "to authorize the people to call a convention" have had the same under consideration, and hereby recommend the respective Houses to agree to the following adjustment of the existing differences between said Houses:

1. That the Senate recede from all its amendments, but that which is in the following words:

"Be it further enacted, That in all cases where any commissioner or sheriff fails or refuses, or from any other cause, fails to hold said election it shall be lawful for any freeholder to hold said election by summoning as many bystanders as may be necessary to hold said election, all of whom shall be freeholders."

And the Committee recommend that the House of Representatives agree to said amendment.

2. Said committee recommend that the word "second" in the first section of said bill be stricken out and the word "third" inserted in place thereof.

3. They recommend that all of the fourth section after the word "the" shall be stricken out and the words "seventy-five" inserted in place thereof.

4. They recommend that the word "seventy-five" be stricken out of the seventh section of the bill.

5. They recommend, that the word "first" be stricken out of the 12th section of said bill and insert the word "second" in place thereof.

All of which is respectfully submitted. The report of the committee was then concurred in, all the members present voting in the affirmative.

Mr. Etheridge moved to reconsider the vote just taken, and then moved to lay his motion on the table.

The motion to lay on the table prevailed.

The Senate then adjourned until to-morrow morning at 11 o'clock.

## House.

MONDAY, NOV. 15.—The House was called to order at 11 o'clock, Speaker Perkins in the chair and 64 members present.

The reports of Committees on the 15th Amendment were made the special order for Tuesday.

## THE CONVENTION BILL.

Mr. Barry, from the Committee of Conference on the Convention Bill, reported that said committee had agreed on the basis of 75 delegates, to be elected according to the representative and electoral appointment of 1852, and that the time for the election of delegates be on the third Saturday in December, and the time for holding the Convention the second Monday in January.

Mr. Fleming moved that the report be concurred in. Carried—ayes 54; noes 9.

On motion, it was directed that the Senate be informed of said concurrence.

Adjourned until 10 o'clock to-morrow morning.

## The Tax on Farmers.

The following letter from the Commissioner of Internal Revenue, addressed to General Daniel Woodall, Assessor of United States Internal Revenue for Delaware, is published for the information of all concerned:

OFFICE OF INTERNAL REVENUE, WASHINGTON, Nov. 6, 1868.—Sir: Your letter of the 4th inst., inquiring "if farmers who go to market regularly twice a week and sell their produce from the curbstone along the market, at any place they can find not already occupied, should be regarded as produce brokers," is received. I reply that they should be regarded as produce brokers, and required to pay special tax as such.

Farmers are exempt from special tax when selling their produce at the place of production, or in the manner of peddlers, but selling at the market place, even though a different stand or station is taken every time, is not selling in the name of a peddler.

The farmer who is in the habit of going to the market place and selling in the manner above indicated makes it his business to sell, and should be required to pay special tax accordingly.

Very respectfully,

J. W. DORRASS, Acting Comm'r.

## New Advertisements.

## Hight &amp; Scruggs,

SWEETWATER, TENN.

DEALERS IN

## DRY GOODS,

## Clothing,

LADIES' and GENTLEMEN'S

Hats, Boots and Shoes,

Hardware,

Queensware,

Stoneware,

Cast Spring and Blister Steel,

Horse Shoes,

Horse Nails, Cut Nails,

Castings, Wagon Boxes,

Salt, Sugar and Coffee,

Indigo and Madder,

Lenoirs' Thread, Train

and Linseed Oil, Paints, &amp;c.

We buy and pay as much as the market will justify.

Bacon, Lard, Wheat, Corn, Eggs, Butter Feathers, Dry Hides, Clean Cotton and Linen Rags, Tallow, Flax Seed, Dried Fruit, Meal and Flower.

We are also Agents for the Holston Plaster Company, and are prepared to furnish Plaster by the Car Load, or in small quantities.

We notify all that we are Agents for the sale of J. H. Taylors' Brooms Manufactured by him in this county, which can be purchased from us by Whole sale, at New York prices. They are equal, if not superior to any broom Manufactured in the North.

Call and examine before you purchase elsewhere.

IN CHANCERY AT MADISONVILLE.

Nancy A. Looney, by her next friend John M. Anderson, vs. A. D. Looney, James M. Brett, and H. B. Pennington.

Appearing to the satisfaction of the Clerk and Master, from the affidavit of John M. Anderson, that defendant James M. Brett is a non-resident of the State of Tennessee, and that the residence of defendant, H. B. Pennington, is unknown to said affiant: It is therefore ordered that publication be made for four successive weeks in the Sweetwater Enterprise, notifying said non-resident defendants to appear at the office of the Clerk and Master of the Chancery Court at Madisonville, on or before the first Monday of April next, the same being a Rule Day, and make defence to complainant's Bill, or the same will be taken for confessed, and the cause set for hearing ex parte as to them.

S. P. HALE, C. &amp; M.

Nov 18—4tp184.

## ORIGINAL ATTACHMENT.

W. C. P. Jones &amp; Torbert, vs. Alexander Hood.

In this cause it appearing, by affidavit, that the defendant, Alexander Hood, is a non-resident, so that the ordinary process of law cannot be served upon him, and an original attachment having been served on his property. It is therefore ordered that publication be made in the Sweetwater Enterprise, a newspaper published in the town of Sweetwater, Tenn., for four consecutive weeks, commanding the said Alexander Hood to appear before me at my office in the 11th, civil district of Monroe County Tenn., on the 30th day of March, 1870, and make defence to said suit against him or it will be proceeded with ex parte.

J. H. WORTHY, J. P.

Nov 18—4tp184.

IN CHANCERY COURT AT MADISONVILLE, TENNESSEE.

Ives, Cunningham and Douglass, vs. Lyman W. Ayer. Or. Att. Bill.

Complainants charge in their bill, which is sworn to, that defendant, Lyman W. Ayer, is a non-resident of the State of Tennessee: It is therefore ordered that publication be made for four successive weeks in the Sweetwater Enterprise, notifying said non-resident defendant to appear at the next term of the Chancery Court, to be held at the Court House, in Madisonville, on the first Monday of December next, and make defence to complainant's bill, or the same will be taken for confessed, and the cause set for hearing ex parte.

S. P. HALE, C. &amp; M.

Nov 4—4tp184.

IN CHANCERY AT MADISONVILLE, TENNESSEE.

Petition for Divorce. Rufus M. Witt vs. Margaret J. Witt.

Complainant charges in his bill, which is sworn to, that defendant Margaret J. Witt is a non-resident of the State of Tennessee: It is therefore ordered that publication be made for four successive weeks in the Sweetwater Enterprise, notifying said non-resident defendant to appear at the next term of the Chancery Court to be held at the Court House in Madisonville on the first Monday of December next, and make defence to complainant's bill, or the same will be taken for confessed, and the cause set for hearing ex parte.

And it is further ordered by the Clerk and Master, that the complainant be allowed to take the depositions of Richard Holland and James Aikman deponentes on the 4th day of December, 1869, at the Law Office of T. W. Burge, in Athens, Tennessee; and that publication thereof for four consecutive weeks, as above ordered, shall be notice just and sufficient for the defendant to attend and cross examine. S. P. HALE, C. & M. T. W. BURGE, Sol. for Complainant.

Nov 4—4tp186.

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